

# First Steps Family Survey

## Statewide Summary

Spring 2006

Total surveys mailed out: 3076

Total surveys returned: 867

1. How old is your child?						
105 (12.11%)	249 (28.72%)	470 (54.21%)	37 (4.27%)	6 (0.69%)		
Less than one year	1 yr - less than 2 yrs	2 yrs - less than 3 yrs	3 years and over	Did not answer		
2. At what age did your child first begin receiving First Steps services?						
439 (50.63%)	222 (25.61%)	184 (21.22%)	0 (0.00%)	22 (2.54%)		
Less than one year	1 yr - less than 2 yrs	2 yrs - less than 3 yrs	3 years and over	Did not answer / did not know		
4. It was easy to learn about First Steps, to find out if my child was eligible for services, and to obtain the early intervention services that are needed for my child and family.						
370 (43.53%)	371 (43.65%)	73 (8.59%)	33 (3.88%)	3 (0.35%)	3	13
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
5. When my child was evaluated, all concerns about my child's development raised by me and others were addressed.						
482 (56.11%)	342 (39.81%)	22 (2.56%)	10 (1.16%)	3 (0.35%)	2	6
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
6. The results of my child's assessments or evaluations were explained to me in ways I understood.						
488 (57.21%)	344 (40.33%)	15 (1.76%)	2 (0.23%)	4 (0.47%)	8	6
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
7. I received information and explanations about our family's legal rights (such as due process, procedural safeguards, child complaints).						
422 (49.94%)	321 (37.99%)	39 (4.62%)	13 (1.54%)	50 (5.92%)	12	10
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
8. I creating our Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), I am asked about areas where our family feels things are fine and where we feel we need help.						
534 (62.46%)	302 (35.32%)	9 (1.05%)	3 (0.35%)	7 (0.82%)	5	7
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
9. We receive all the services listed in our Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).						
504 (59.15%)	274 (32.16%)	37 (4.34%)	12 (1.41%)	25 (2.93%)	6	9
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
10. I feel the service coordinator and the early intervention providers listen to me and respect me.						
565 (65.62%)	259 (30.08%)	20 (2.32%)	13 (1.51%)	4 (0.46%)	0	6
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
11. Our family routinely uses the help of our service coordinator.						
234 (28.40%)	385 (46.72%)	148 (17.96%)	39 (4.73%)	18 (2.18%)	30	12
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
12. Our service coordinator helps my family, in a timely way, get the services we need.						
404 (47.98%)	338 (40.14%)	56 (6.65%)	27 (3.21%)	17 (2.02%)	16	9
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
13. The people who work with my child know a lot about my child's disability and how to work with him/her.						
539 (63.79%)	266 (31.48%)	25 (2.96%)	7 (0.83%)	8 (0.95%)	10	11
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
14. Early intervention services give my family ways to improve my child's development.						
615 (72.01%)	222 (26.00%)	7 (0.82%)	6 (0.70%)	4 (0.47%)	7	6
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
15. I receive information and explanations about the services my child needs and believe the services my child and family receive are appropriate.						
506 (59.46%)	301 (35.37%)	29 (3.41%)	11 (1.29%)	4 (0.47%)	6	9
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer

16. Early intervention services staff show respect for my family's ethnic and cultural background.						
467 (63.71%)	257 (35.06%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (0.14%)	8 (1.09%)	123	11
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
17. Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meetings are scheduled at a time and place that are convenient for me and my family.						
561 (65.85%)	262 (30.75%)	14 (1.64%)	9 (1.06%)	6 (0.70%)	6	9
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
18. Early intervention services have increased my family's capacity to enhance my child's development.						
584 (68.71%)	239 (28.12%)	14 (1.65%)	4 (0.47%)	9 (1.06%)	8	9
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
19. Over the past year, First Steps services have helped me and/or my family:						
<u>a. Work and play together in a normal fashion even though we have a child with special needs.</u>						
428 (56.76%)	290 (38.46%)	25 (3.32%)	3 (0.40%)	8 (1.06%)	99	13
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>b. Feel more confident in my skills as a parent/guardian.</u>						
452 (56.43%)	304 (37.95%)	33 (4.12%)	4 (0.50%)	8 (1.00%)	51	15
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>c. Understand my child's needs.</u>						
485 (59.36%)	297 (36.35%)	27 (3.30%)	4 (0.49%)	4 (0.49%)	36	14
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>d. Be more optimistic about my child's future.</u>						
490 (60.72%)	279 (34.57%)	26 (3.22%)	6 (0.74%)	6 (0.74%)	43	17
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
20. Over the past year, First Steps services have had a positive impact on my child's progress in the following areas:						
<u>a. Understanding and using language</u>						
393 (57.96%)	231 (34.07%)	30 (4.42%)	13 (1.92%)	11 (1.62%)	162	27
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>b. Learning and cognition</u>						
378 (53.54%)	291 (41.22%)	18 (2.55%)	5 (0.71%)	14 (1.98%)	135	26
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>c. Social skills/behavior</u>						
330 (50.77%)	261 (40.15%)	34 (5.23%)	7 (1.08%)	18 (2.77%)	188	29
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>d. Emotional</u>						
285 (46.34%)	269 (43.74%)	31 (5.04%)	7 (1.14%)	23 (3.74%)	221	31
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>e. Adaptive skills</u>						
347 (51.79%)	277 (41.34%)	21 (3.13%)	7 (1.04%)	18 (2.69%)	162	35
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>f. Physical/movement</u>						
448 (63.91%)	226 (32.24%)	14 (2.00%)	9 (1.28%)	4 (0.57%)	145	19
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
<u>g. Health/medical</u>						
278 (49.47%)	219 (38.97%)	38 (6.76%)	11 (1.96%)	16 (2.85%)	278	27
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer
21. Since being part of First Steps, I know how to work with professionals and advocate for what my child needs.						
395 (47.71%)	371 (44.81%)	25 (3.02%)	10 (1.21%)	27 (3.26%)	28	11
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer

22. The information and help my family receive through First Steps has made our family better off.

535 (63.61%)	269 (31.99%)	14 (1.66%)	9 (1.07%)	14 (1.66%)	13	12
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Do Not Know	Does Not Apply	Did not answer

### Question related to Community Resources

What community resources were you made aware of through First Steps? *(Question added for February 1, 2006 mailing)*

243 (12.83%)	Parent support groups	107 (5.65%)	SSI	131 (6.92%)	Childcare services
128 (6.76%)	DSS	84 (4.44%)	DMH regional centers	68 (3.59%)	Co Health Services (v
51 (2.69%)	DHSS	137 (7.23%)	Medical services	51 (2.69%)	Transportation service
79 (4.17%)	Library	9 (0.48%)	CPD	15 (0.79%)	Chrch/Relig. facility
288 (15.21%)	*Chose more than one resource			64 (3.38%)	Service organization
379 (20.01%)	*Chose no resources or N/A			68 (3.59%)	Other

### Question related to Race/Ethnicity

What is your race/ethnicity? *(Question added to February 1, 2006 mailing)*

735 (84.78%)	White
53 (6.11%)	Black/African-American
17 (1.96%)	Hispanic/Latino
9 (1.04%)	Asian/Pacific Islander
9 (1.04%)	American Indian/Alaskan Native
43 (4.96%)	No Response